

once a week for 5 consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of established character and general circulation in the vicinity of the lands, to be designated by the State Director, as provided in subpart 1824 of this chapter.

(b) *Proof of publication.* At the expiration of the period of publication, the State shall file in the State Office proof of publication and of payment for the same.

§2612.3 Issuance of patents.

Upon the receipt of proof of publication such action shall be taken in each case as the showing may require, and all tracts that are free from valid protest, and respecting which the law and regulations and grant contract have been complied with, shall be patented to the State, or to its assignees if the lands have been settled and cultivated. If patent issues to the State, it is the responsibility of the State to assure that the lands are cultivated and settled. If the State does not dispose of the patented lands within 5 years to actual settlers who have cultivated at least 20 acres of each 160 acre tract, or if the State disposes of the patented lands to any person who is not an actual settler or has not cultivated 20 acres of the 160 acre tract, action may be taken to revert title in the United States.

Subpart 2613—Preference Right Upon Restoration

§2613.0-3 Authority.

The Act approved February 14, 1920 (41 Stat. 407; 43 U.S.C. 644), provides that upon restoration of Carey Act lands from segregation, the Secretary is authorized, in his discretion, to allow a preference right of entry under other applicable land laws to any Carey Act entryman on any such lands which such person had entered under and pursuant to the State laws providing for the administration of the grant and upon which such person had established actual, bona fide residence or had made substantial and permanent improvements.

§2613.1 Allowance of filing of applications.

(a) *Status of lands under State laws.* Prior to the restoration of lands segregated under the Carey Act, the Bureau of Land Management shall ascertain from the proper State officials whether any entries have been allowed under the State Carey Act laws on any such lands, and if any such entries have been allowed, the status thereof and action taken by the State with reference thereto.

(b) *No entries under State laws.* If it is shown with reasonable certainty, either from the report of the State officers or by other available information, that there are no entries under State law, then the Act of February 14, 1920, shall not be considered applicable to the restoration of the lands. Lands shall be restored as provided in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) *Entries under State laws.* If it appears from the report of the State officials or otherwise that there are entries under the State law which may properly be the basis for preference rights under this act, in the order restoring the lands the authorized officer may, in his discretion, allow only the filing of applications to obtain a preference right under the Act of February 14, 1920.

§2613.2 Applications.

(a) Applications for preference rights under the Act of February 14, 1920, shall be filed within 90 days of the publication of the restoration order.

(b) Applications shall be on a form approved by the Director and shall set forth sufficient facts to show that the applicant is qualified under the act and these regulations. The application must be subscribed and sworn to before a notary public.

(c) *Persons qualified.* The Act of February 14, 1920, applies only to cases of entries in good faith in compliance with the requirements of State law, with a view to reclaiming the land and procuring title pursuant to the provisions of the Carey Act; the act does not apply to cases where persons have settled on or improved the segregated land, either with the approval of the State authorities or otherwise, not